

134

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO

COUNTRY Nicaragua

SUBJECT Argentine Labor Activities in Nicaragua

PLACE  
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

25X1A

DATE OF  
INFO. [REDACTED]

25X1X

RETURN TO CIA  
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In late October Absalon Gonzales, in his capacity as Secretary General of the Confederacion General del Trabajo (CGT) of Nicaragua, received an invitation from the Confederacion de Empleados de Comercio de la Republica Argentina to attend a celebration of the Congreso de Empleados de Comercio, which was held in Buenos Aires on 3-5 November 1951. CGT members selected to attend the meeting were Raul Sandoval of the Sindicato de Choferes and Orlando Morales of the Sindicato de Zapateros. Selection of these delegates caused friction between the CGT and the Federacion Sindical Nacionalista (FSN) of Nicaragua. The FSN made the complaint that Sandoval and Morales are not commercial employees and are not members of the Sindicato de Empleados de Comercio. The FSN also stated that CGT has no affiliated syndicate of commercial employees. The Confederacion de Empleados de Comercio in Buenos Aires was advised by the FSN of these facts and responded with invitations for the FSN to send two representatives. Carlos Adan Espinoza and Tulio Tablada were selected as the FSN representatives. Agustín Herrera and Matilde Barreto were also invited from Nicaragua as delegates at large to observe the Argentine national elections.

Although the Nicaraguan delegates' passages were paid by the Confederacion de Empleados de Comercio de la Republica Argentina, the Argentine Embassy in Managua had furnished a letter to the Managua office of Pan American Airways stating that it would guarantee payment of the passages.

25X1X [REDACTED] the principal motive of the Argentines in taking these labor leaders to Argentina was to promote a Latin American federation of labor, and the following letter from the Confederacion General del Trabajo de la Republica Argentina is given in translation to substantiate this opinion:

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Buenos Aires, 24 November 1951

To the Executive Committee of the  
Federacion Sindical Nacionalista  
Masagua-Nicaragua

Esteemed Companions:

We have had the immense pleasure of receiving in our country the visit of the beloved companion, Arustin Herrera R., who has had the opportunity to be present for the magnificent election in which the working people of the country have again confirmed their choice of a leader, General Juan Peron.

The millions of votes with which the entire people of the New Argentina once more consecrated President Peron, leader of their nationalism, are the millions of workers whom the Confederacion General del Trabajo shelters in its bosom, as an impregnable bulwark for the defence of JUSTICIALISM.

In this manner, Argentina initiates one more stage in its civil life, an act witnessed by labor leaders of Latin America, who have seen the real Justicialism with their own eyes and who have been able to verify the purity of the democracy which we practice but which we do not proclaim.

This victory of the Argentine workers, which we have shared with the leaders of our country, has made us think more deeply of the necessity of overthrowing on all fronts the enemies of the proletariat, such as capitalism and communism, with their mercenary agents, who run loose among the American peoples sowing confusion and money in order to divide the conscientious workers.

Several companions who have been in our country have suggested the idea of forming a Latin American union of workers in order to initiate the liberation of so many companions who are victims of capitalist exploitation. We are helping them in this idea and we are sure that it will triumph, because we consider that all the working men of the Latin American peoples are above all the baseness represented by the money of those who buy consciences in order to subvert them in the traitorous mud of capitalism.

Certainly the organizations of the whole continent have to place themselves in accord with so great a task, and we do not doubt that you are going to do all that is in your power so that in Nicaragua all organized workers will unite in the idea of liberation, and very soon we shall celebrate the victory of the submerged peoples, redeemed and dignified, since we must not forget that 'only a worker will save another worker.'

Perhaps on another occasion we can speak again of these things so interesting for the Latin American workers. We in Argentina do not doubt that the cry of many companions, who suffer in their homes the exploitation and the misery imposed on them by capitalism, will arrive deep in your hearts and that today what is simply an idea will be tomorrow a magnificent reality.

On this occasion we send, companions, the affectionate and brotherly greeting of all Argentine workers who meet in this Central Obrera, with the utmost assurance that the Argentine workers are on the march for the liberation of the peoples of the continent.

/s/ Florencio Soto  
Secretario Adjunto

/s/ Jose G. Espejo  
Secretary-General  
Confederacion

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-3-

4. Upon his return from Argentina, Agustin Herrera, in his report to the FSN, stated that he had participated in drawing plans for a future confederation of Latin American unions, which Herrera signed in the name of the FSN. However, source states that Herrera had no authority to act for the FSN in signing such a document, and apparently the document drawn up was the basis for the letter set forth.
5. According to source, as a whole the delegates to Argentina were not impressed by what they saw. Most of them had the impression that the labor movement in Argentina was strictly a tool of Peron, and that it is completely infiltrated with Peronista spies. Those who do not conform to the desires of Peron quickly find themselves unable to secure work. Furthermore, the delegates were convinced that the elections which they saw were a complete farce.

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